WEATHER, p. 2

WED: 33°F | 20°F

Mostly sunny

THU: 29°F | 20°F Mostly sunny

tech.mit.edu Volume 130, Number 59 Tuesday, December 7, 2010

Food-themed projects take Kresge

Students show off fruits of their labor in 2.009 presentations



Professor David R. Wallace PhD '95 welcomes the Silver Team, which developed a sushi-ferrying robot, to the stage at 2.009 presentations yesterday. The course required students to design and build a solution to an issue related to food.

By Elijah Jordan Turner

As a large clock counted down from two minutes, the excitement of the crowd in the nearly packed Kresge Auditorium reached fever pitch. Students, faculty, and friends gath-

ered to see the results of months of labor from

the students of 2.009 (Product Engineering Processes), who were tasked with designing a food-themed product.

As in previous years, teams of students from the course had to build a working prototype and create a business plan for their product. Last night, representatives of the eight teams, each consisting of 15 to 20 students, presented

and pitched their products to the captive audience. Live music was on hand to provide foodthemed music and a backdrop to the often humorous interludes between presentations.

The teams interpreted this year's theme of food in a number of ways, with some address-

2.009, Page 12

Arguments give support to stem cells

Appeal court judges in favor of stem cell research

> By John A. Hawkinson NEWS EDITOR

Stem cell researchers can be cautiously op-

Yesterday morning, the government attorneys and anti-embryonic stem cell research advocates argued before an appeals court in the ongoing stem cell case, Sherley v. Sebelius, where former MIT professor James L. Sherley and fellow researcher Theresa A. Deisher are suing the federal government to prohibit human embryonic stem cell research.

The government is appealing a preliminary injunction issued by a lower court that barred the National Institutes of Health from funding human embryonic stem cell research though other kinds of stem cell research are

That injunction was issued on Aug. 2 but has been suspended by the appeals court since Sept. 9. The appeals court has moved quickly in the past — when they heard oral argument

Stem cells, Page 13

Koch Cafe to replace Bio Cafe

Set to begin operations by early January, the Koch Cafe (Bldg. 76) will replace the currently operating Bio Cafe (Bldg. 68). The Bio Cafe will discontinue its service on Friday, December 17.

According to Director of Campus Dining Richard D. Berlin, the new Koch Cafe was put into place for two reasons. First, the existing Bio Cafe would be too small to serve the incoming community now housed in the new Koch Institute building. Second, Berlin said that it did not make sense to have three different cafes (Forbes, Bio, and Koch) located on the same courtyard.

The new Koch Cafe will seat approximately 80 people and will serve hot breakfast and lunch. According to Berlin, the hours of operation are expected to be 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Similar to the Forbes Cafe in the Stata Center, the Koch Cafe has a made-to-order sandwich deli and grab-

While no temporary dining will be put in place between the time the Bio Cafe closes and the Koch Institute opens, Berlin said the Forbes Cafe will continue to operate and serve the MIT community through the December vacation. —Robert McQueen



Tang lawyers question Fife's judgment

Psychologist at center of controversy on fifth day of Wellesley stabber's trial

By John A. Hawkinson

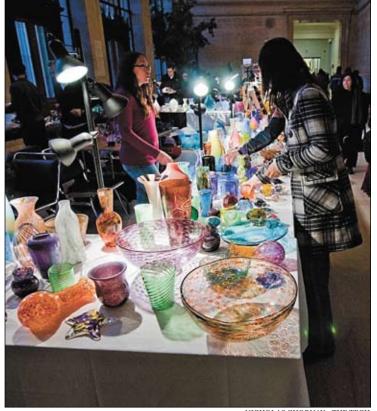
NEWS EDITOR

Yesterday, the Anna L. Tangtrial entered its 5th day, and the entire day was spent on the testimony of one witness — arguably the most pivotal yet confusing witness of the entire trial — the prosecution's Courtappointed forensic psychologist, Dr. Alison Fife. Under cross-examination, Fife's credibility took several large hits.

Fife's testimony is of such interest because early in the summer — before the trial came to an abrupt halt — she issued a written report to the Court saying that, based on mental illness, Tang was not able to conform her conduct to the requi ments of the law. That would mean Tang was not criminally responsible - so called "not guilty by reason of insanity."

Tang, who has struggled with mental illness since childhood, stabbed Wolfe B.

Tang, Page 15



NICHOLAS CHORNAY—THE TECH

Today is the second day of the annual holiday glass sale. Held in Lobby 10, the sale features work by students and instructors from MIT's Glass Lab, which offers classes in the fall and spring as well as IAP. A portion of the proceeds from the sale goes toward funding the lab's ongoing activities.

IN SHORT

Fall semester classes end on Thursday. Get ready for finals next week!

Need a break? The MIT Community Winter Break is today from 3:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. in Lobby 7. The event is sponsored

by the Undergraduate Association, Graduate Student Council and the Office of the President.

Looking to buy gifts for the holidays? The MIT Glass Lab Holiday Sale ends today. The sale is held in Lobby 10 from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Send news information and tips to news@tech.mit.edu.

IT'S CROSSWORDS **GALORE!**

Do you like crosswords? Then this is your lucky day. We have four 4 you! FUN, p. 18

DINING WILL DESTROY MIT

The new dining plan destroys community and sets a precedent for the future. OPN, p. 5

COMPLETE YOUR EVALUATIONS

Subject evaluations make professors and courses improve. OPN, p. 5



DANCING INTO THE THIRD DIMENSION

Get a sneak peak into Dancetroupe's rehearsals for their Dancetroupe in 3D show this week. NUZ, p. 8

VARIOUS STATES OF UNDRESS

Ladies, take charge and just ask him out. CL, p. 7

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Bombers kill 40 at anti-Taliban meeting in Pakistan

PESHAWAR, Pakistan — Two suicide bombers dressed as police officers detonated explosive vests at a meeting of hundreds of people with the top civilian official in the tribal agency of Mohmand, killing more than 40 and wounding at least 100, government officials said.

The meeting, called a peace jirga, had been assembled to plan a strategy to stand up to the Taliban, who have carved out a haven in the strategic tribal region on the Afghan border, resisting a nearly two-year campaign by the Pakistani military to oust them.

—Ismail Khan and Salman Masood, The New York Times

Top test scores from Shanghai stun educators

With China's debut in international standardized testing, students in Shanghai have surprised experts by outscoring their counterparts in dozens of other countries, in reading as well as in math and science, according to the results of a respected exam.

U.S. officials and Europeans involved in administering the test in about 65 countries acknowledged that the scores from Shanghai are by no means representative of all of China.

About 5,100 15-year-olds in Shanghai were chosen as a representative cross-section of students in that city. In the United States, a similar number of students from across the country were selected as a representative sample for the test.

—Sam Dillon, The New York Times

Obama urges China to rein in North Korea

WASHINGTON — In a sign of mounting tension between the United States and China over North Korea, President Barack Obama telephoned President Hu Jintao and warned that China was emboldening its unruly neighbor by not publicly challenging its behavior, a senior administration official said Monday.

In a frank, 30-minute discussion Sunday night, Obama urged China to put the North Korean government on a tighter leash after a series of provocations, most recently its shelling of a South Korean island, which has stoked fears of a wider military confrontation in the Korean Peninsula.

—Mark Landler, The New York Times

Gillick elected to Hall of Fame; Steinbrenner and Miller not

ORLANDO, Florida — When Pat Gillick left the Yankees' front office in 1976 to build the expansion Toronto Blue Jays, George Steinbrenner was upset. He did not like a new American League East rival poaching his scouting director.

Gillick and Steinbrenner did just fine apart. Both went on to careers filled with championships, and both appeared on the veterans committee's Hall of Fame ballot for the first time this year. But only Gillick was elected in voting results announced Monday.

Gillick, the former general manager of the Blue Jays, the Baltimore Orioles, the Seattle Mariners and the Philadelphia Phillies, was named on 13 of 16 ballots, with 12 needed for election. Steinbrenner, who owned the Yankees from 1973 until his death on July 13, was named on fewer than eight ballots. The Hall of Fame would not specify exactly how many votes Steinbrenner received.

—Tyler Kepner, The New York Times

In Obama's deal with GOP, a portent for the next two years

By Peter Baker
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — For President Barack Obama, this is what bipartisanship looks like in the new era: messy, combustible and painful,

brought on under the threat of even more unpalatable consequences and yet still deferring the ultimate resolution for another day.

For the first time since his party's drubbing in last month's election, and arguably for the first time on a major domestic policy since he took office, Obama forged a deal with the Republican opposition, swallowing hard to give up a central campaign promise while maneuvering to win enough other priorities to declare partial victory.

In that deal come the first clues to how he plans to govern for the next two years with a divided Congress, an anemic economy and his own re-election looming on the horizon. He made clear he was willing to alienate his liberal base in the interest of compromise, more interested in crafting measures that can pass to the benefit of the middle

class than waging battle to the end over principle. And in the process, he is gambling he can convince the American people that he is the bridge builder they thought he was.

"I know there's some people in my own party and in the other party who would rather prolong this battle, even if we can't reach a compromise," Obama said in announcing the bipartisan agreement on tax cuts and unemployment benefits. "But I'm not willing to let working families across this country become collateral damage for political warfare here in Washington."

This was not a compromise he could relish. Ending the Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthiest 2 percent of households was a major theme of his campaign in 2008. But if he had to agree to a two-year extension, he exacted a price from Republicans in the form of extended unemployment benefits, a temporary payroll tax cut to help the working class and the continuation of tax breaks for parents and students.

Unlike with other issues, Obama and the Republicans had a powerful incentive to split the difference, an implacable end-of-the-year deadline that would have resulted in a tax increase for nearly every American. Moreover, he arguably just punted the issue into the 2012 campaign.

The White House was careful not to extrapolate too much from one deal. Still, after Obama got passage of sweeping economic stimulus, health care and financial regulation measures with virtually no Republican support, this represents something of a break, and centrists and Republicans saw hope for a more collaborative two years.

"This is the first in a series of painful deals that the president will have to cut if he is to move us forward for the next two years," said Matt Bennett, vice president of Third Way, an advocacy group of moderate Democrats, and a veteran of Bill Clinton's White House. "It is proof that he is governing as an adult, looking for opportunities to negotiate."

Frank J. Donatelli, chairman of GOPAC, a Republican group, and White House political director under Ronald Reagan, said the opposition would welcome the move.

Cables show how U.S. strains to stop arms flow

By Michael R. Gordon and Andrew W. Lehren

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — Just a week after President Bashar Assad of Syria assured a top State Department official that his government was not sending sophisticated weapons to Hezbollah, the Obama administration lodged a confidential protest accusing Syria of doing precisely what it had denied doing.

"In our meetings last week it was stated that Syria is not transferring any 'new' missiles to Lebanese Hizballah," noted a cable sent by Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton in February, using an alternative spelling for the militant group. "We are aware, however, of current Syrian efforts to supply Hizballah with ballistic missiles. I must stress that this activity is of deep concern to my government, and we strongly caution you against such a serious escalation."

A senior Syrian Foreign Ministry official, a cable from the U.S. Embassy in Damascus reported, flatly denied the allegation. But nine months later, administration officials assert, the flow of arms had continued to Hezbollah. According to a Pentagon official, Hezbollah's arsenal now includes up to 50,000 rockets and missiles, including some 40 to 50 Fatah-110 missiles capable of reaching Tel Aviv and most of Israel, and 10 Scud-D missiles. The newly fortified Hezbollah has raised fears any future conflict with Israel could erupt into a fullscale regional war.

The Syrian episode offers a glimpse of U.S. efforts to prevent buildups of arms — including Scud missiles, Soviet-era tanks and anti-aircraft weapons — in some of the world's tensest regions. Wielding surveillance photos and sales contracts, U.S. diplomats have confronted foreign governments about

shadowy front companies, secretive banks and shippers around the globe, according to secret State Department cables obtained by WikiLeaks and made available to several news organizations.

U.S. officials have tried to block a Serbian black marketer from selling sniper rifles to Yemen. They have sought to disrupt the sale of Chinese missile technology to Pakistan, the cables show, and questioned Indian officials about chemical industry exports that could be used to make poison gas.

But while H.S. officials can claim

But while U.S. officials can claim some successes, the diplomats' dispatches underscore how often their efforts have been frustrated in trying to choke off trade by Syria and others, including Iran and North Korea

The United States is the world's largest arms supplier and, with Russia, dominates trade in the developing world.

WEATHER

Blustery conditions, but no snow for this week

By Roman Kowch
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Chilly temperatures will maintain their grip on New England. Over the past few days, highs only reached the lower 30s°F which is about 10°F below normal for late Autumn. In fact, current trends show

that it will get even colder over the region, with lows near 15°F by mid-week! Despite such cold weather,

no precipitation looks im-

minent as dry weather filters

down from Canada. A station-

ary low pressure over eastern Canada will be responsible for the breezy conditions this week. Although this storm seems close, moisture from this system will be blocked by a trough that remains fixed over the eastern Appalachians. As a result, heavy snowfall continues over upstate New York into northern Maine, where current totals range from 5-10 inches. We don't have to contend with heavy snow this week. The cold, blustery wind should be the only concern for the next few days.

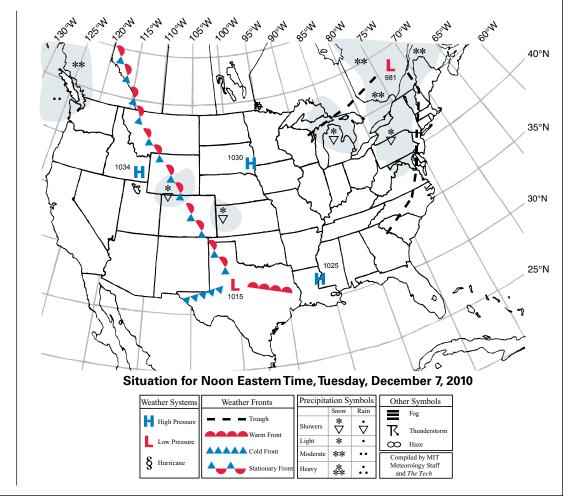
Extended Forecast

Today: Mostly cloudy, West wind at 10-20 mph, gusts to 30 mph. High 37°F (3°C).

Tonight: Mostly cloudy, West wind at 10-20 mph. Low 24°F (-4°C).

Tomorrow: Mostly sunny, West wind at 10-20 mph. High 35°F (2°C).

Thursday: Clear and cold. High 31°F (-1°C).



Supreme Court to hear Wal-Mart discrimination case

By Adam Liptak

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The Supreme Court on Monday agreed to hear an appeal in the biggest employment discrimination case in the nation's history, one claiming that Wal-Mart Stores discriminated against hundreds of thousands of women in pay and promotion. The lawsuit seeks back pay that could amount to billions of dollars.

The question before the court is not whether there was discrimination but rather whether the claims by the individual employees may be combined as a class action. The court's decision on that issue will almost certainly affect all sorts of class-action suits, including ones asserting antitrust, securities and product liability, as well as other claims.

If nothing else, many pending class actions will slow or stop while litigants and courts await the decision in the case. Arguments in the case are likely to be heard this spring with a decision expected by the end of June.

Wal-Mart, which says its policies expressly bar discrimination and promote diversity, said the plaintiffs, who worked in 3,400 stores in 170 job classifications, cannot possibly have enough in common to make class-action treatment appropriate.

"We are pleased that the Supreme Court has granted review in this important case," Wal-Mart said in a brief statement. "The current confusion in class-action law is harmful for everyone — employers, employees, businesses of all types and sizes and the civil justice system. These are exceedingly important issues that reach far beyond this particular case."

There has been no ruling yet on the plaintiffs' claims that they were discriminated against, and the ground rules for how those claims will be heard have not yet been determined. Resolution of the merits of the plaintiffs' case will now await a decision about whether it may go forward as a class action.

In their brief urging the justices to deny review, the plaintiffs had said Wal-Mart's objection to classaction treatment boiled down to the enormous size of the class. But size is "legally irrelevant," the brief said.

"The class is large because Wal-Mart is the nation's largest employer," the brief said, "and manages its operations and employment practices in a highly uniform and centralized manner."

Brad Seligman, the main lawyer for the plaintiffs, said Monday that plaintiffs welcomed the court's review of the limited issue and were confident justices would rule in their favor.

"Wal-Mart has thrown up an extraordinarily broad number of issues, many of which, if the court seriously entertained, could very severely undermine many civil rights class actions," Seligman said.

In April, an 11-member panel of the 9th Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals, in San Francisco, ruled 6-5 that the class action could go forward.

Judge Michael Daly Hawkins, writing for the majority, said the company's policies and treatment of women were similar enough that a single lawsuit was both efficient and appropriate.

Three Republicans in race to lead appropriations committee

By Carl Hulse

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — The thick binder is dominated by a drawing of a chubby Uncle Sam, with shirt buttons straining against his girth, and a fleshy hand open and outstretched

"Uncle Needs a Diet," declares the package assembled by Rep. Jerry Lewis, R-Calif., one of three candidates in the race for one of the most powerful, and now paradoxical, jobs in government: leading the House Appropriations Committee in the new Congress as the Republican leadership tries to transform the panel from a fountain of federal spending into ground zero for budget cutting.

Selecting a chairman — a party vote is expected Tuesday — is the first step in perhaps the most audacious aspect of the plan by Rep. John A. Boehner, the incoming Republican speaker, to alter the way the House works. Like Lewis, the

two other leading candidates, Rep. Harold Rogers of Kentucky and Rep. Jack Kingston of Georgia, are campaigning to convince their party's leadership that they can cast aside their own histories as earmarkers and pork-allocators and lead a shift in focus from how to spend to how to save

To make the effort more than a slogan will mean upending one of the most entrenched cultures in Washington, a bipartisan tradition of directing money to favored causes with an eye as much to political gain as to policy outcome. Under both parties, the committee has long been a power unto itself, a secretive realm where subcommittee chairmen hold sway over Cabinet secretaries and generals, and financing can almost magically materialize or disappear for little-scrutinized local projects even as national priorities are set or dismissed.

Leading the committee toward a belt-tightening mandate would also mean taking on an entire industry that has been built up around the federal trough, a complex of lobbyists, consultants and corporations that feeds off the competition for dollars and with some regularity produces scandals — and provides a substantial chunk of the campaign contributions that fuel the U.S. political system.

"It has been a favor factory for years, and now it is going to become a slaughterhouse," said Rep. Jeff Flake, an Arizona Republican and longtime antagonist of the Appropriations Committee who Monday was endorsed by Boehner to be one of several anti-spending conservatives to be seated on the panel. "It is going to get ugly."

All the candidates for chairman have more than 15 years on the committee, and all have hungrily sought earmarks. According to Taxpayers for Common Sense, in the last fiscal year, Lewis won 62 earmarks worth \$97.6 million, followed by Rogers with 59 costing \$93.4 million and Kingston 40 worth \$66.8 million.

Germany reluctant to expand European bailout fund

By Stephen Castle

THE NEW YORK TIMES

BRUSSELS — Despite rising pressure for new measures to draw a line under the debt crisis, Germany moved Monday to close off debate on an increase to a 750-billion-euro bailout fund, or the more radical step of issuing common euro zone bonds

As ministers from the 16 euro zone countries met in Brussels, Chancellor Angela Merkel of Germany dampened speculation that the bailout fund, worth \$997 billion and now being used by Ireland, could be increased soon.

"I see no need to expand the fund right now," Merkel said in Berlin after talks with Prime Minister Donald Tusk of Poland, Bloomberg News reported.

Her comment came as the European debt crisis showed few signs of abating. Moody's, the credit rating agency, on Monday downgraded by two notches government bonds issued by Hungary, which is outside of the euro zone. This left the country's bonds one step above junk status. Meanwhile, yields on Spanish and Italian bonds rose.

For weeks, European leaders have tried, and failed, to restore calm. There appeared to be no sign Monday of a consensus required to get ahead of the markets and restore confidence.

While Olli Rehn, the European commissioner for economic and monetary affairs, said the meetings in Brussels would include discussion of deepening the bailout fund, Merkel had said she did not favor an immediate increase.

The managing director of the International Monetary Fund, Dominique Strauss-Kahn, was scheduled to attend the meeting. European diplomats say privately that there has been a debate in recent days on whether to increase the fund to make it clear that a big economy

like Spain could be defended, if needed. But many think that the public mood in Germany makes such a move politically impossible for Merkel, unless it is presented as a last-ditch effort to save the euro itself.

Merkel has rejected a separate call from Luxembourg and Italy to create a common euro zone bond. Such a move would not be permitted under the European Union's governing treaty, she said. Creating the legal possibility to issue euro zone bonds, German officials suggest, would require a substantial rewriting of the European Union treaty, something most countries would be unwilling to do because it could require referendums in several countries where it lacked enough support.

The idea of common euro zone bonds has long been favored by Luxembourg and Belgium, the biggest supporters of European integration.

Divorce soars in Iran, stirring fears of society in crisis

TEHRAN — The wedding nearly 1,400 years ago of Imam Ali, Shiite Islam's most revered figure, and Fatemeh al-Zahra, the daughter of the Prophet Muhammad, is commemorated in Iran's packed political calendar as a day to celebrate family values.

But in a sign of the Iranian authorities' increasing concern about Iran's shifting social landscape, Marriage Day, as it is usually known in Iran, this year was renamed No Divorce Day, with Iran's justice minister decreeing no divorce permits would be issued.

The officials' concerns are understandable. Divorce is skyrocketing in Iran. The number each year has roughly tripled in a decade, to a little more than 150,000 in 2010 from around 50,000 in 2000, according to official figures.

Explanations for the rising divorce rate vary widely. More liberal commentators emphasize factors like rapid urbanization, high living costs and a jobless rate that official figures put at close to 1 in 4 among 16- to 25-year-olds.

—William Yong, The New York Times

Service members face new threat: identity theft

The government warns Americans to closely guard their Social Security numbers. But it has done a poor job of protecting those same numbers for millions of people: the nation's soldiers, sailors, airmen and Marines.

At bases and outposts at home and around the world, military personnel continue to use their Social Security numbers as personal identifiers in dozens of everyday settings, from filling out health forms to checking out basketballs at the gym. All of this is putting members of the military at heightened risk for identity theft.

That is the conclusion of a scathing new report written by an Army intelligence officer turned West Point professor, Lt. Col. Gregory Conti. Representatives for the military say they are aware of the problem and are taking steps to fix it, with the Navy and Marines making efforts in the last few months. The Defense Department said in 2008 it was moving to limit the use of Social Security numbers, and in a statement last week it said the numbers would no longer appear on new military ID cards as of May.

—Matt Richtel, The New York Times

Tracing the spark of creative problem-solving

The puzzles look easy, and mostly they are. Given three words — "trip," "house" and "goal," for example — find a fourth that will complete a compound word with each. A minute or so of mental trolling (housekeeper, goalkeeper, trip?) is all it usually takes.

But who wants to troll?

Let lightning strike. Let the clues suddenly coalesce in the brain — "field!" — as they do so often for young children solving a riddle. As they must have done, for that matter, in the minds of those early humans who outfoxed nature well before the advent of deduction, abstraction or SAT prep courses. Puzzle-solving is such an ancient, universal practice, scholars say, precisely because it depends on creative insight, on the primitive spark that ignited the first campfires.

And now, modern neuroscientists are beginning to tap its source. In a just completed study, researchers at Northwestern University found that people were more likely to solve word puzzles with sudden insight when they were amused, having just seen a short comedy routine.

—Benedict Carey, The New York Times

U.S. selling last of stake in Citigroup

Citigroup is finally wriggling free of Uncle Sam.

Two years after the financial giant was bailed out by the federal government, the U.S. Treasury is selling its remaining shares in the company.

The move, announced late on Monday, largely ends the remarkable federal rescue of Citigroup, whose downfall came to symbolize all that was wrong with Wall Street. It also represents another milestone in the post-bailout era.

While the government would retain a vestigial interest in Citigroup after the offering, the sale would effectively free the giant company from modest federal pay restrictions and lift a cloud that has hung over its chief executive, Vikram S. Pandit.

—Eric Dash, The New York Times

Bond prices rise, but shares finish flat

Bond prices rose and stock indexes ended flat on Monday after remarks by the Federal Reserve chairman over the weekend that left open the possibility of expanding the central bank's bond purchases.

The remarks by the chairman, Ben S. Bernanke, came after a week of mixed news about the economy. On Monday, the central bank bought about \$2 billion in mostly long-term Treasuries as part of its bond buying program.

He also said it was "certainly possible" that the Fed could expand the program, depending on inflation and how efficient the program is, but he added, "We're not very far from the level where the economy is not self-sustaining."

The program, known as quantitative easing, was announced in November. It calls for buying about \$600 billion in bonds through June 2011.

On Monday, the Dow Jones industrial average ended down 19.90 points, or 0.2 percent, at 11,362.19. The broader Standard & Poor's 500-stock index fell 1.59 points, or 0.1 percent, to 1,223.12, and the Nasdaq composite index rose 3.46 points, or 0.1 percent, to 2,594.92.

—Christine Hauser, The New York Times



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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Why not more food trucks?

Dining at MIT faces tough financial constraints and high expectations, but this is MIT! If we can't figure out a solution that offers tasty, nutritious, and affordable food options to those who want them, who can? Professor Slocum got the ball rolling with some creative ideas for transforming food culture here; let's have everyone propose ideas to HDAG and show that there are many alternatives to the traditional subsidize-an-overpriced-vendor model for campus dining.

Here's one: Anyone who's had a Korean BBQ taco in downtown Los Angeles knows how amazing food truck food can be. Even here in Cambridge, trucks like Clover and Momogoose are profitable, popular, and serve a variety of great meals everyday. They can flexibly locate anywhere on campus and are constantly innovating based on feedback from customers. Plus, they're ridiculously cheap compared to other lunch options in the area.

We should allow food trucks to park in clusters along Dorm Row in the evening, rotating positions throughout the week and serving students on their way home from class and sports practice. Maintain the dining halls as places to eat together, and negotiate parking contracts with the truck owners to ensure food quality, cleanliness, and regular service during the semester. Give them TechCash readers for convenience, and access to MIT wireless so they can tweet their locations and specials. And route them to East Campus and the graduate dorms as well; no dining plan so far has improved options for them.

Would there be enough entrepreneurs willing to start mobile food stands and meet the demand of the MIT campus? I'm not sure. Yet, I think the optimal outcome to our dining issues will only come from an environment fostering creativity, choice, and competition. No amount of negotiating with large monopolistic food vendors like Aramark or tweaking convoluted charts of meal "subscriptions" will reach this goal.

David Lee G

Full-body scanners answer unasked questions

Keith Yost's column "The banana-equivalent dose" (November 23, 2010) reads more like a TSA press release than a well thought-out explanation for passengers' objections to the new full-body scanners. He describes that "we" (who is this unnamed "we"?) have created this new security measure as though it is an inevitable response, without telling us about any of the decisions and motivations that have led to its deployment over the past three years, and without presenting any alternative means to ensure passengers' safety.

No one is denying that there are people who wish to harm us, and that there have been several unsuccessful attempts at detonating explosives on US-bound flights over the past eight years, all on airplanes that originated overseas. No one also denies the horror of September 11, 2001, but the weapons the hijackers used would have already been picked up using existing screening technology. During this same $\,$ time, there have been several successful terrorist attacks overseas against buses and subways and hotels, the "soft" targets that Yost acknowledges are left unguarded. Will Yost therefore argue that these fullbody scanners (or patdown alternatives) should also be implemented for all public transit passengers, and for all guests of upscale hotels?

If the enemy's tactics are so unvaried, why do we need to change a system that has worked well for the past eight years?

Yost states that the scanners allow us to "obtain some chance of stopping a dedicated enemy who has shown shockingly little variety in his modus operandi." If the enemy's tactics are so unvaried, then why do we need to change a system that has worked well for the past eight years? In addition, Yost makes many observations without providing evidence to back them up. Has he seen firsthand the images produced by the scanners, and has he himself seen that the machines cannot save the images?

Yost argues throughout his piece that the scanners are a preferred alternative to the new patdowns, because the latter slow down the security screening and are a "few steps removed from a full body groping." Yet he never even considers the alternative that the scanners are unnecessary, that they are a solution to a problem which is not calling out for an answer.

While Yost is "going through the damn scanner", I will instead think for myself and not take at face value what the TSA is force-feeding the public.

Saul Blumenthal '98 The Tech Advisory Board member

Badboys of Boston: calendar for charity?

Would you pay for half-nude pictures in order to support charity? The 2011 calendar, "The Bad Boys of Boston," made with MIT's *Technique*, launched on campus this week. The calendar is composed of racy pictures of models, all men from various groups at MIT, shown in seductive poses. I have seen the calendar, and the teasers up at http://badboys.mit.edu/ are much milder than the actual calendar. True, no one's...er...phallus is shown, but the concept is all wrong. They don't get it — clearly their calendar was made more

for their own egos and perverted sense of humor than for the good of charity.

First of all, this sort of calendar, especially one titled "The Bad Boys of Boston," is likely to get spread far and wide, and garner a lot of bad publicity for MIT. This will reflect on all of us. Remember the deodorant and toothbrushes for the reading room during finals last year? Bad odor and a complete lack of hygiene don't represent MIT as a whole. Yet CNN and many other new outlets ran with the story, basically branding MIT as a smelly institution where people only study and don't bother with bathing. Similarly, a calendar like this could very easily end up in the national news — especially something that could easily be branded as "Nerds Gone Wild." I have talked with a member of the calendar staff, and they definitely plan to sell it to not only MIT, but many local colleges. In essence, this calendar will be spread all over. Pictures will appear all over the local news. Potential freshman and their parents will see these images. Administrators like Dean Colombo and Susan Hockfield will see them. Do we want news outlets publicizing pictures of people we know personally and embarrassing MIT? Do we want administrators, many of which who are deciding on the unpopular MIT dining plan to see this? Do we want prefrosh and their parents to see this, particularly when MIT is trying to increase enrollment by another 200 students per year? Clearly only bad publicity for all of us can come out of a calendar like this.

"The Bad Boys of Boston" is likely to get spread far and wide, and garner a lot of bad publicity for MIT.

Furthermore, why raise money for charity using such a blatantly quasipornographic calendar? The calendar is raising money for the "Dream a Dream" foundation, which supports education for underprivileged children in India. Not only is it slightly repugnant to those of us who don't think excessive skin is necessary for a calendar to put on your wall, but this calendar has no connection to this charity. Furthermore, what would the Dream a Dream foundation say if they realized that their funds came from the sale of something like this? That's like raising money for a church by selling alcohol — not necessarily illegal, but something about it is just wrong.

Overall, I believe everyone on campus should boycott the calendar. The effect of the revenue on the Dream a Dream charity is likely to be small, especially in comparison to the damage of the bad publicity for all of us at MIT that is likely to result from large support on campus. Let's not be the target of jokes about "Nerds Gone Wild," alienate MIT administrators, or discourage potential students because of this calendar

Melissa B. Yan '14

CORRECTIONS

A photoillustration on Friday's front page misspelled the surname of Anna L. Tang's psychopharmacologist. His name is Michael J. Mufson, not Muson.

In the Nov. 12 issue, Ryan Normandin's column about the death penalty incorrectly stated that the U.S. is the only "major democratic power that still uses capital punishment." Capital punishment is legal in Japan, India, South Korea and Taiwan.

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Your evaluations are meaningful to us

Subject evaluations help departments build better courses

By David L. Darmofal

With another end of semester upon us, finding time to complete subject evaluations is often difficult given the usual crunch of papers, projects, and exams. I wanted to briefly describe how these evaluations are used at the Institute, encourage students to fill them out, and offer some suggestions for how we might look to improve upon the way in which subjects are evaluated.

Subject evaluations are a critical source of information for what worked and what did not work in a subject.

Subject evaluations are largely (if not completely) done online at the Institute. While some programs run their own online systems (in particular Courses 2 and 6), the Institute has also developed an online system that is now used by most other programs, including my home department, Course 16. Speaking as an instructor, the subject evaluations are a critical source of information for what worked and what did not work in a subject. By combining that

information with the instructor's sense of the course, as well student performance, a much more accurate picture arises of ways to improve the subject and how it is taught. I like to think of this as a state estimation and feedback control system — by combining a bunch of incomplete data sources, a better estimate of the state of the subject can be determined. This lets us make changes to improve the subject and better understand the dynamics of teaching it.

Subject evaluations also are an important part in faculty annual performance reviews and tenure and promotion cases. For example, all faculty in the School of Engineering report in their Faculty Personnel Record (i.e. a more detailed form of a curriculum vitae used at MIT for performance and promotion reviews) the average rating of overall teaching effectiveness and the overall subject quality for every subject they have taught.

In Course 16, we have a formal reflective process that began over ten years ago. All faculty that teach an undergraduate subject in our department write a memo at the end of each semester to reflect on whether students have met the subject learning objectives, describe what changes were taken to improve the subject from the last offering, and suggest changes for the next offering. Then, each faculty member meets with the

associate department head to discuss these reflective memos. As the current associate department head, I prepare for these discussions by reading the memo and looking at the student evaluations to ensure that the student feedback has been considered in the faculty's reflections. These reflective memos and the subsequent discussions are among the most thoughtful discussions I have had about improving teaching.

...there are no questions relevant to problem/ project-based learning, laboratory experiences, hands-on-activities, etc.

What might we do better in evaluating our subjects? I will focus largely on what I know best — that is, the evaluation process we use in Course 16. The new online Institute-wide subject evaluation system offers a lot of flexibility in the questions that can be asked, yet I find the default set of questions to be constraining and not representative of the wide-range of teaching techniques utilized throughout the Institute (e.g. there are no questions relevant to problem/project-based learning, laboratory experiences,

hands-on activities, etc.). Furthermore, perhaps a common set of questions might be developed for CI-M subjects that allow best practices in teaching CI-Ms to emerge.

The reports produced by the online system could also be much richer. Currently, for quantitative questions, the reports include only averages and standard deviations, though I find histograms to be much more useful in many circumstances. Another dimension would be to allow automated comparisons among a set of subjects. Finally, in this age of budgetary pressure, I wonder if we might have an opportunity to move towards a single online evaluation system and in the process not only reduce cost but also actually learn more about effective teaching by facilitating comparison.

MIT is a data-driven place, and subject evaluations are a critical part of the data used to improve the MIT education. If you are taking a subject, definitely take the time to complete an evaluation. We want to hear a range of opinions — from constructive criticism to positive feedback.

Best wishes to all for a successful close to another semester.

David L. Darmofal PhD '91 is the associate department head and professor in the Department of Aeronautics and Astronautics, and a MacVicar Fellow.

The new dining plan and the fate of scientific collaboration

Or, why MIT won't matter in 50 years

By Samuel Markson

This is my brief attempt to illuminate the MIT administration as to why so many students and affiliates are offended by the recent dining plan, and maybe, by the end, justify my title.

In more technical terms, if the administration sticks its head any further up its own ass, it'll be topologically equivalent to a klein hottle

First up, dining.

Mentally translating and compressing Chris Colombo's one-page "compromise" plan from this past Monday, I get something like this:

"A ton of you are against this proposal. We still kinda like it. Compromise? We enact it—but only after you're gone."

It does solve a chunk of the complaints levied on HDAG of late. At least for the complainers. Presumably the incoming classes - either through self-selection or some careful work by the admissions office - will have fewer problems with the plan, and the community will gradually accept the status quo of Institute opacity. At worst, we'll become a marginally "techier" version of Harvard, and surely there's no problem in that, right? I'm not arrogant enough to suggest that this plan will drastically change education at MIT. At the end of the day, people will be going to the same classes and turning in the same psets. The amount students will pay extra on meals is marginal compared to the behemoth that is full tuition. And if MIT is enhancing financial aid for this, I suppose they have the right to waste their own money.

I think most people on the "sayno" petition get this. Some might be mollified by Dean Colombo's compromise, but the vast majority still feel uneasy. Words like "culture" and "community" get thrown around a lot when we talk about dining, probably

because those, rather than our student bills, are at stake. I'm guessing that the vast majority of MIT graduates — certainly all the ones that I've interacted with — will tell you that what they gained from MIT was intellectual connections and friendships.

But will people stop talking to each other if they're eating more expensive food? Probably not. Graduates from universities with mandatory dining are certainly learning the material roughly as well as we do here, so I doubt that that will change.

At worst, we'll become a marginally "techier" version of Harvard, and surely there's no problem in that, right?

So who cares?

Perhaps MIT won't lose competitiveness relative to other American universities, but MIT should still be aware of what it is really selling. It is not selling lectures; it is selling community, and sooner or later someone will get hip to the fact that community can be bought for a whole lot less than five digits. The frank truth — that every student worth his or her diploma here knows — is that none of us are here for the professors, the classes or the psets. The first are often pedagogic troglodytes, the second are inefficient and opaque (it has been estimated that the average lecture-goer catches perhaps the first twenty minutes coherently), and the third are available online, from ours and other universities. What's holding MIT together is not the power of our classes but the power of our name and the power of a piece of paper with that name on it. Once that fades (which it will, once more of the most brilliant minds

decide to buck the system and its pricetag, and get their education off OCW, Wikipedia, arxiv, and the numerous other resources available for next to nothing, per capita) MIT will fade with it.

I read a recent article in Gizmodo, detailing the decline of Bell Labs; in 1934, Clarence Hickman, an engineer at Bell Labs, created a prototypical answering machine that used magnetic recording tape. Bell Labs, worried that the technology would damage their own profitability, hid the project for the next fifty years (the rather Machiavellian rationale being that businesses would be more afraid to using the telephone were they to suspect that their calls might be recorded). The technology would only show up on the market in the 1990's, instead, largely from Germany. Note that Bell Labs has perhaps half the prominence it had in its glory days.

I think also of the town of Göttingen, whose academic prominence shriveled following the rise of the Third Reich (to the benefit of several American academic towns and national laboratories, who suddenly found the newfound intellectual blood needed to dominate in their respective fields).

Let's not pretend that all of these situations are analogous. The only reigning point is that academic meccas can be destroyed as quickly as they are created. Yes, the recipes for these communities can be complex, but freedom has always been an essential ingredient. The point is that if freedom is not vigorously defended (rather than passively permitted) by the administra there's nothing stopping the next wave of great scientists and engineers from packing up and leaving for greener intellectual pastures. If the American economy stays the course, such a place may not even be within our borders, and American students may be applying abroad just as internationals are applying here. Perhaps if the community allows it (the technology already does), scientific communities will flourish online just as open-source software groups do, with personal renown won only through raw talent and contribution, rather than patience climbing the corporate ladder of American academia.

The administration's jobs will mostly be obsolete within 50 years. Perhaps this is why the voluminous pack of fact-checkers, paper-pushers, event-planners, and committee-sitters is flooding the MIT payroll now — they, as us, need to prepare for the future.

It is much more educational for us now to satisfy ourselves with what we can do than lament what we cannot.

We, the students, have no particular say in the matter, but it is much more educational for us now to satisfy ourselves with what we can do than lament what we cannot. We should content ourselves with donating less to the institute after graduation, not as some petty revenge-tactic, but because in this day and age the cost of the time to take a paragraph's worth of hand-written lecture notes roughly equals that of a full semester's education through online resources, publicly-owned textbooks and preprints, and conversations with peers wl suing ideas for their true worth (rather than as a stepping stone towards a diploma and unquestioned social authority). If MIT will not embrace freedom for intellectuals — its only true commodity — it is more worth our time to ask where the newest great ideas will come from than to cling to relics of an obsolete and irrelevant academic culture.





Advanced security measures sacrifices travelers' liberty and dignity

By Mike Veldman

STAFF COLUMNIST

This past Thanksgiving I, like many of you, passed through Boston Logan Airport in order to get home. Prior to my trip, I had been looking forward with a mixture of giddiness and dread to the opportunity of being subjected to an "enhanced pat down," an experience I hoped would be illuminating, if not mortifying.

The reality turned out to be rather anticlimactic. After psyching myself up, preparing for unannounced intrusions and discourteous groping, the TSA agent who examined me treated me with as much dignity and respect as the situation allowed.

However this is not to say that the process itself is not utterly violating.

First of all I was surprised to find that there was no policy in place requiring patdowns to occur behind some sort of visual barrier. Apparently, you have to specifically request this "special treatment." As it happened, I was patted down and had my nether regions examined in front of everyone in line.

I also wonder whether my TSA agent's politeness was due to stepped up efforts by the TSA to improve etiquette in response to various high-profile embarrassments, including John Tyner's "Don't touch my junk or I'll have you arrested" viral encounter and a case in which a small boy had his shirt removed for closer inspection.

And despite the fact that my body search was decidedly clinical, this does not mean that other searches cannot be abusive. Whenever an authoritative body is given new power at least some of its members will abuse it.

If you think this overly cynical, consider the following: As Dr. Sheila Addison notes in an article for the California National Organization for Women blog, shortly after the attacks of 9/11 reports started coming out about women with large breasts being singled out for "random" searches by TSA agents who touched them inappropriately and/or made rude comments about their bodies.

In fact, all sorts of marginalized bodies (those of trans and disabled persons and people of color, for instance) have been abused for the past decade without a ruck-us being raised.

The one change between then and now, Addison notes, is that now white, ablebodied, and gender normative men are being violated, and thus the issue is suddenly deserving of national scrutiny.

Even as far as reactionary responses go, this one seems particularly irrational and ineffectual.

Further, simply because I was reasonably comfortable being touched and examined the way I was does not mean that other travelers cannot have legitimate reasons to avoid these searches at all costs. Women deal enough with issues of bodily autonomy elsewhere to go through more egregious affronts at the airport. Many survivors of rape and other forms of sexual assault are more or less forced to stay home considering their other option to possibly trigger a panic attack or post-traumatic episode.

Of course, there is an alternative: one could simply enter the scanner like the vast majority of travelers. Like the helpful TSA notices say, the images are viewed remotely and "are not saved or transmitted." Whether or not they actually have the capability to do so (and thus have the possibility of being abused) is unclear to me, but has been debated vigorously by my

fellow opinion writers Keith Yost and Nils

Yost also showed that the dose of radiation the body is subjected to by the machines is beyond minuscule, comparing the dose to the amount you would get from eating a banana. But to me, this is not sufficient reason to accept these scanners as part of our typical travel routine.

For one, they are a rather stunning invasion of privacy. While I concede that the millimeterwave scanners show only highly pixilated images, the backscatter X-ray images, though still not exactly Polaroids, are very much pictures of your naked body.

Many people have legitimate concerns about allowing other seeing under their clothes — that is, concerns that go beyond another person seeing you naked without your consent. As my parents pointed out to me, these machines reveal knowledge of a person's medical history, such as the dermal record of a past mastectomy, that would cost them a fortune in medical malpractice for revealing.

So what is the government trying to accomplish with these machines? Noam Chomsky might suggest that it fits into a pattern of highly predictable responses to public scares. Just as after 9/11 new constitution-defying laws were passed under the guise of national security, so again is the government using the specter of the underwear bomber to further encroach on our rights.

But even as far as reactionary responses go, this one seems particularly irrational and ineffectual. First of all, the bomber Umar Farouk Abdulmutallab did not even pass through United States airport security. He came to the U.S. from Nigeria via Holland. What's the use of these new measures if travelers from abroad are not even subjected to them?

What's more, not even every American airport has them. I walked through them at

Logan but on my way back to MIT through Chicago's Midway Airport there was a curious dearth of scanners. (That didn't stop TSA agents from pulling aside an octogenarian with prosthetic knees for further examination.)

And even if Abdulmutallab did pass through the scanners, officials have only wavering confidence that the machines would have detected the plastic explosive in his pants. Even more asinine is how Adam Savage (of *Mythbusters* fame) boarded his plane before he realized that he had been carrying on his person "two 12-inch steel razor blades."

Ultimately the issue comes down to what liberties we are willing to sacrifice for security.

All of this ridiculousness is not lost on the rest of the world, mind you. On You-Tube you can find skits from Japanese television programs ridiculing our security measures as arbitrary, impotent, and all too frequently an avenue for sexual abuse.

Ultimately the issue comes down to what liberties we are willing to sacrifice for security. I'll spare you the Benjamin Franklin quote, but ask yourself how far you are willing to let your government go before it becomes unacceptable.

Personally, I would prefer to limit the government's power to invade my privacy; there is simply too much room for abuse and surreptitious expansion of federal control. I shudder to think what will happen when terrorists realize the human body has certain orifices highly amenable to hiding explosives from the gaze of surface-scanning machines. On the plus side, we might get to make up cute new euphemisms: "Patriot Probes," anyone?

Bowles-Simpson deficit report surprisingly useful

Bold yet feasible, the proposal introduces much needed fiscal sanity

By Keith Yost STAFF COLUMNIST

On February 18, President Obama created the "National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform," a bipartisan 18-member panel of senators, representatives, and other luminaries. Co-chaired by Erksine Bowles (a former Chief of Staff to Bill Clinton) and Alan Simpson (a former Republican senator) the commission was charged with "identifying policies to improve the fiscal situation in the medium term and to achieve fiscal sustainability over the long run... including changes to address the growth of entitlement spending."

Bold, yet practical, this was not the bowl of mushy platitudes that cynics had been conditioned to expect.

At the time, little faith was placed in the ability of the debt commission to tackle the nation's problems. These sort of bipartisan sit-downs are a nice bit of political ritual, but they're mostly ceremonial. If a policy consensus exists prior to the commission being formed, then the commission will rubber stamp that consensus; if no consensus exists, the commission will return a mealymouthed report that avoids saying anything

PINIONOPINION

disagreeable...or useful.

As there was no consensus in Washington as to what should be done about budget deficits, it was expected that the commission, after much deliberation, would return something bland and unhelpful.

Therefore it was with no small measure of shock that on November 10th, weeks ahead of the commission's December deadline, the chairs of the commission released their own proposal. Bold, yet practical, this was not the bowl of mushy platitudes and truisms that cynics had been conditioned to expect. The proposal began a serious discussion in Washington circles as to how the nation should get its fiscal house in order.

The broad strokes laid down by the cochairs proposal are an excellent blend: fiscally significant, but politically feasible, detailed, yet flexible and open to negotiation. Broaden the tax base, make the code more efficient, and lower rates. Cut \$200 billion from discretionary spending, half from the military and half from other programs. Raise the SS retirement age and make the program solvent. Curb the growth of federal spending on health care.

The co-chairs' approach to cuts is to make many small reductions across a wide range of programs. Where the chairs make big ticket cuts, they target appropriately: reducing the federal workforce and curbing its pay growth, eliminating earmarks, demanding greater accountability in defense spending, belatedly pulling Cold War forces out of Europe, and slashing procurement of the

military's white elephants, like the V-22 Osprey, the F-35, and the F-22.

The commission's final report, released on December 1, was a further improvement over the co-chairs proposal. The new language suggests that a higher share of discretionary cuts should come from military spending, and reduces the tax exemption on employer health care spending, both of which are intelligent moves (military spending is much larger than non-military discretionary spending, making it easier to cut, and the employer health care tax exemption is unnecessary under ObamaCare).

No one is perfectly happy with what the debt commission produced — nonetheless, this proposal should be acted upon.

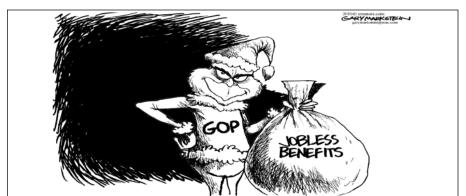
The commission's report also brings concrete detail to improving the U.S. budgetary process, including the establishment of separate caps on military and non-military discretionary spending, as well as the creation of a permanent non-partisan body tasked with making budget cut suggestions to future congresses.

There is still plenty of room to nitpick. Personally, I am vehemently opposed to taxing capital gains at the same rate as income, want to see a little more courage on raising

the retirement age, and would like a more concrete vision of how health care costs are going to be reduced. But no one is ever going to get 100 percent of what they want. The final vote of 11-7 in favor of the plan is revealing. The commission needed 14 votes out of 18 to submit a formal recommendation to Congress, and so in a sense it has failed, but the solid majority of 11 votes it has secured speaks to the breadth of the consensus the commission was able to achieve, as does the bipartisanship of its support: of the seven who voted against, three were Democrat, three were Republican, and the seventh was a union boss. 14 votes had always been a pipe dream: the proposal sets the balance on fiscal retrenchment exceedingly well. It creates a plan for cutting spending that doesn't interfere with the short-term need for stimulus. It sets the right trade-off between tax increases, spending cuts, and reform. It spreads the pain of debt reduction evenly across society, raising taxes on the lower and middle class, but slashing government handouts to the wealthy. It provides a large menu of specific cuts and tax changes for Washington to mull over. In short, it does exactly what was hoped of it: create a practical and balanced starting point for more intensive negotiations on our nation's fiscal

No one is perfectly happy with what the debt commission has produced — such is the nature of politics and compromise. Nonetheless, this proposal is a pleasant surprise, and should be acted upon.





Taking the initiative

The woes of the feminist way

By M.

Dating is hard these days for women like me. While nothing short of charming, women at MIT are a different breed of female: We're stronger, more empowered, and generally smarter than your average girl down the street.

Women have been conditioned by society to act a certain way if they want to find a man, but what if that clashes with who you truly are? Are we supposed to mold our personalities into what men want if we want to date someone? I don't think so.

I have always cultivated traits that are considered desirable in men. I'm proactive in my pursuits; I know what I want and I get it, I'm not easily intimidated and I speak my mind. My mother never inculcated me with "womanly" values and I took after my father because I wanted to emulate his success.

This doesn't set me up for traditional courtship where I wait for a guy to ask me out. My father taught me that if I liked a guy, I should just go for it.

I met a guy not long ago who seemed to like me but hadn't made any moves on me. Rather, he just put it all on me to pursue him: He gave me his phone number and he said he'd like to hang out, but he didn't ask me out. I asked a friend, "Should I just ask him out?" She looked at me like I was crazy and said that I should not.

"But what if he never asks me out? What if he's shy or something?"

"Then it's his loss. If he likes you, he'll ask you out." And sadly, this is not the first advice of this sort that I've received. If I approach, some women tell me, the guy will think I'm desperate, but waiting for a guy to ask me out puts me in a passive role, which goes against my nature.

Why do I need to play by guys' rules if I want to stay in the game? What is wrong with a girl asking a guy out in the 21st century?

I recently read an article on the New York Times titled "Keeping Romance Alive in the Age of Female Empowerment." I'll save you the pain of reading it and give you the one quote that sums it up nicely: "Men don't want successful women, men want to be admired. It's important to them that the woman is full of energy at night and not playing with her BlackBerry in bed."

In other words, men are intimidated and emasculated by smart, go-getting women, and if our goal is to meet someone who will want to date us, we need to conform to what they want. The title hints at the underlying issue here: It makes the problem about women's success rather than about some men's fragile egos. Our partners should be turned on by our ambitiousness, not emasculated by it. Maybe that's asking for too much.

Our partners should be turned on by our ambitiousness, not emasculated by it. Maybe that's asking for too much.

And the saddest part is that it is totally a double standard. Most of us highly value strong features in men like ambition, confidence, and decisiveness. Yet most of the guys I've dated have been deeply intimidated upon seeing those qualities in me. It's the classical case of the "women are sluts, guys are just players" scenario with a twist: A confident, successful man is sexy; a confident, successful woman is a bitch, and nobody

wants to date a bitch. (Plenty want to sleep with us, though.)

When I date, I am extremely conscious of the fact that most guys I go out with will be intimidated by me and turned off as a result. It's just the harsh reality of my dating life, but I try to approach it with a great sense of humor and unfailing optimism.

It's easy to doubt myself when guys turn me down, but my friends remind me that I am a great girl and that it's just a matter of finding someone who likes what I bring to the table. I am certain that I will eventually find a guy who finds my personality refreshing and accepts the challenge, and so should you, ladies!

None of us should have to conform ourselves to an outdated dating model where we wait for a guy to choose us, especially when we can do the choosing. We, empowered women, can and should pursue whatever or whomever we want without regards for silly gender conventions, and if anybody is intimidated by us, I'd say that's their loss.

On to the next one.

(Oh, I should probably mention that this is my last column ever. Thanks for reading! I will still be available at *undress@tech.mit.edu.*)

Google me — I dare you

How I learned to live down Internet infamy

By Christine Yu

I have become a fiercely private individual when it comes to my romantic life. These days, it takes me a while to warm up to people enough to even acknowledge whether or not I have a boyfriend. It's not information I usually freely offer, and I don't believe that undermines any of my feelings towards a romantic partner. Instead, I think it's a greater testimony of my independence with my refusal to ever publicly acknowledge an intimate relationship.

This is a stark contrast to the days when I was 18 and penned a "sex" column.

I don't regret the experience that ultimately made me the private person I am. I learned the boundaries of what I was comfortable with sharing. During my phase of kissing and telling, I never cared about establishing a relationship that wasn't superficial. Consequently, the bulk of what I wrote

about could be called vapid and insipid.

After I turned 19, I stopped talking publicly about my intimate life. I wrote about sex toys, and then I just got sick of sex writing. I realized writing about sex without any personal anecdotes was not anything special.

Now, I realize that many of them had a point: I exploited myself.

I fully understand that the remnants of my oversharing may never disappear from the Internet, and I'm perfectly OK with that. It doesn't bother me that one of the first hits of my name on Google turns up an image of me with a huge grin holding a dildo. This image should possibly concern me more.

However, it's never come up in a job interview, and I'm sure some of my employers have Googled me.

It does, however, bother me that people continue to make assumptions and judgments about who I am based on my previous exploits. It's impossible to control other individuals' reactions to writing that's been published on the Internet. However, it amazed me the extreme levels of nastiness from several members of the MIT campus.

I was continually harassed on my blog and other blogs by anonymous individuals with MIT IP addresses, who were too cowardly to put a real name to their statements. They also probably thought I was too stupid to track IP's.

These individuals slandered me by comparing me to a mentally handicapped elementary school student and multiple other nasty ways of questioning my intelligence. I was also continually called fat when I was only a size 2 then.

I got tired of the dread of every Google alert I would get involving my name. So, I just disappeared from the Internet for a few months. As a result, I no longer had to worry if people associated my name with "Talk Nerdy to Me," and the vitriol of internet trolls died down.

I used believed that I was letting the Internet trolls win by disappearing. Now, I realize that many of them had a point: I exploited myself.

The girl who wrote "Talk Nerdy to Me" may never disappear from the Internet, even if I attempted to scrub my online identity clean. Online identities don't just disappear when you take a hiatus from the Internet. To some people, I will always be the girl who wrote "Talk Nerdy to Me," even if I never blab another word about my private life. However, I've come to accept and realize that the longer I keep my silence — the more I guard my privacy — is a greater testimony of who I've become.

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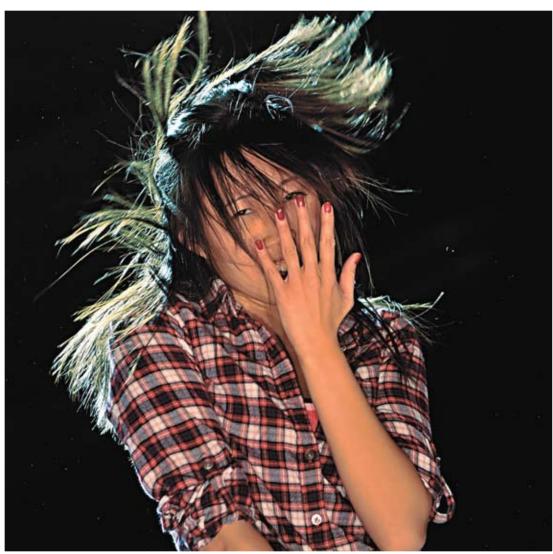
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8 THE TECH
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2010

Bringing dancing into a new dimension







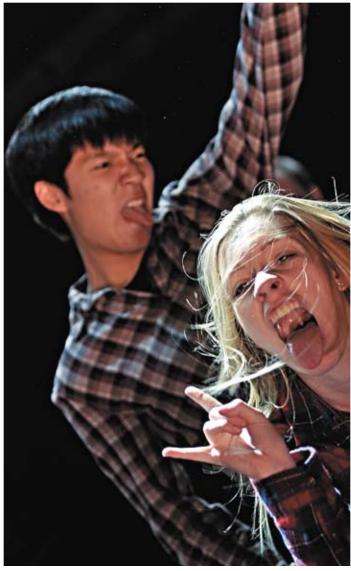




Members of Dance Troupe rehearse Thursday in preparation for their upcoming show, Dance Troupe in 3D. Performances will be held Wednesday through Friday. Tickets are on sale in the Student Center (W20) every day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. until Thursday.

Performer above: Stephen T. Goodman '12 Clockwise from top left: Sara E. Chen '11 Elizabeth M. Kimball '11

Olga B. Botvinnik Mason Tang G, Lauren T. Berry '13 Various, Choreography by Andrew N. Sang '13 Jackie Chen '14





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10 The Tech Tuesday, December 7, 2010



The MIT Chamber Chorus sings "Jesu, miene Freude," a motet by J. S. Bach, at the Chapel on Thursday for their Fall concert. They also performed Heinrich Schütz's "Musikalische Exequien."



Guest conductor Frank Battisti of the New England Conservatory (NEC) Wind Ensemble directs at the MIT Wind Ensemble at their annual concert on Friday night. Battisti founded the NEC Wind Ensemble 30 years ago and is considered one of the world's foremost authorities on wind music literature.



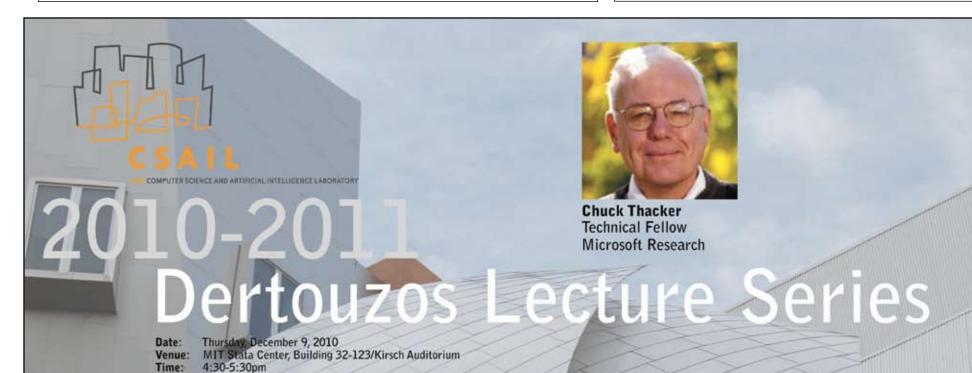
XUAN YAN

Anne V. Cai '14 performs in MIT Symphony Orchestra's winter concert on Saturday night. The concert featured "Ladder to the Moon" by Elena Ruehr, a Lecturer in the Music and Theater Arts Department, "Fontane di Roma (The Fountains of Rome)" by Ottorino Respighi, and "Symphony no. 5, op. 67" by Ludwig van Beethoven.



IESSICA LIII—THE TECH

Ravi Chandran '14 speaks to a member of the MIT Corporation about the sayno petition. The protesters were giving copies of the petition to members of the Corporation as they arrived for their quarterly meeting. The sayno petition, signed by 1,836 undergraduates, protests the dining plan proposed by the House Dining Advisory Group (HDAG).



The Future of Computer Architecture Research

Abstract: Until recently semiconductor manufacturers could depend on a predictable rate of improvement in their underlying implementation technologies. This progress enabled large improvements in capacity and performance of what were essentially legacy architectures. The academic architecture community helped; few papers described or evaluated revolutionary approaches to computing. The software industry also benefitted from this approach, since old programs could be run on these evolutionary systems, which provided backward compatibility at every step. This ability to improve the performance of these legacy architectures has now stopped due to limits on frequency scaling, power consumption, and design complexity. Semiconductor makers will continue to put more transistors on a chip of a given size every year, since Moore's law has not yet run out, but we will have to use these transistors in new ways. This change will have profound effects on the way computers are built and on the software they will run. It will require a level of innovation and cooperation between hardware and software architects that we haven't seen for many years. In this talk, I will describe the origin and nature of the barriers we now face, and speculate on some ways that we could avoid or overcome the limitations they impose.

Biography: Chuck Thacker has spent forty years in several industrial research labs. He received the BA in physics from U.C. Berkeley in 1967. He joined Xerox PARC in 1970, where he was responsible for the hardware of a number of innovative systems, including the Alto, the first networked personal computer, and the Ethernet, which is still the most successful local area network. In 1983, he joined the DEC Systems Research Center, where he was responsible for a number of networking and computing systems, including the AN1 and AN2 networks and the Firefly multiprocessor. He joined Microsoft in 1997 to help establish the Company's Cambridge, England laboratory. After returning to the U.S. in 1999, he joined the newly-formed Tablet PC group and managed the design of the first prototypes of this new device. He has also worked on low-cost computing devices for elementary education, and is currently working in Microsoft Research Silicon Valley, where he leads a Computer Architecture group. Chuck has published extensively, and holds a number of U.S patents in computer systems and networking. In 1984, he was awarded (B. Lampson and R. Taylor) the ACM's Software Systems Award for the development of the Alto. He is a Distinguished Alumnus of the Computer Science Department of the University of California, and holds an Honorary Doctorate from the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH). He is a member of the IEEE, a fellow of the ACM, a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and a member of the National Academy of Engineering, which in 2004 awarded him, (with A. Kay, B. Lampson, and R. Taylor) the Charles Stark Draper prize. In 2007, he received the IEEE John Von Neumann medal, and in 2010, he received the ACM Alan Turing Award.

Hosts: David Gifford & Frans Kaashoek, CSAIL

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12 THE TECH
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2010





It slices! It dices! It cuts 7-sided prisms!

2.009, from Page 1

ing farming issues and others looking to improve the operation of elite restaurants.

The Red Team addressed an issue especially salient in the developing world: the difficulty of transporting milk long distances. After trying to contact organizations in Africa and India, the team decided to focus their efforts on the South American nation of Guyana, which imports most of its milk from other countries. The Red Team's device employed a bicycle-style pedaling system and a furnace to convert excess milk into powdered milk.

With the operator pedaling away on the machine, about two gallons of milk can be converted into a powdered form each hour. Presenters mentioned the Boston winter may have affected the evaporation rate around the machine, and so they needed to test their device in "more tropical environments," similar to Guyana's. With manufacturing costs close to \$200 per unit and a retail price of only \$40, the team would need to get financial assistance from non-governmental organizations in order to be successful.

When asked about the possibility of two farmers operating the machine simultaneously, the Red Team said one person could handle the job just fine. "Loading the wood might be the most strenuous thing you have to do," one of the presenters said.

Next, it was the Silver Team's turn. They took a less charitable approach but addressed a vital niche market: the sushi parlor.

Building on the success of conveyor belts at hip sushi joints, the Silver Team created the *noribo*, a saucer-like robot that carries dishes from the chef's kitchen to the dining table. When customers find an attractive sampling of sushi, they simply grab the plate off the *noribo*, which runs on a track. Customers are charged for the number of empty plates at the end of the meal.

The Silver Team estimates a typical restaurant will need up to 100 of these devices. While the whole operation would cost about \$20,000, they put that at half the price of a conveyor belt system. The team also highlighted the ease of use and

maintenance, noting that if a single robot broke down, it could simply be taken out of rotation.

The Blue Team offered up another solution for farmers, creating a device that can wash up to three dozen eggs simultaneously. When the eggs are inside the device, a pair of brushes - not unlike those you might see at a fancy car wash - converge upon the eggs and wipe them clean. A separate compartment is used to dry the eggs, while another batch can be placed in the main compartment. Putting the cost of each unit at \$100,000, the team hoped to make \$240 in licensing fees off each item sold.

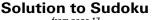
The Yellow Team rounded out the night with a small device, the True Tourné, that simplified tournéing, a technically difficult cutting technique. Popular in high-end French restaurants, one must be able to cut each potato piece into a sevensided prism. With the backstory of a French cook who wanted to open a new restaurant in the United States, the Yellow Team demonstrated how their device made the process as easy as placing a piece of potato in a small vice then cranking a knob and making a cut seven times.

The team noted that among the few French restaurants they sampled in the Boston area, half of them avoided using the technique because it was too difficult. The market for the True Tourné, the Yellow Team said, is large, with nearly 23,000 restaurants in the twenty largest cities in the country.

"And that doesn't even include other places that might serve French food – like France," said team member Jamie K. Curran '11.

The remaining four projects of the night were a flour dispenser, a wheelchair basket, a spice dispenser, and a water bottle washer.

The night ended on a high note, as the audience congratulated the teams for their hard work, and the presenters thanked Professor David R. Wallace PhD '95 for his guidance this term. Presenting Wallace a token of gratitude, Eliza J. Eddison '11 said more than half of the course's students — many seniors — said this was the best course they had ever taken.



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Solution to Crossword I

Solution to Crossword III

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Solution to Sudoku

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Solution to Crossword I

T H O M H E W E D O C H S
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S O L T I A A N O L E T T M I
H E L L S K I T C H E N
M R B L U E N A P E

A E R Y D O O M T A S S O
I D A C A N Y O N S P O E
D I N A H E L L B A F I F I
D R E I
K I N G S C O L L E G E
R N A T E S L A G S H E E P
Z W E I A I M E E L I S C R

Solution to Crossword IV

Judges interpret stem cell research

Stem cells, from Page 1

earlier in the case, over whether to temporarily suspend the preliminary injunction while they heard the case — they issued the order just one day after oral argument.

At this stage, the only information available to the court were the questions asked by the 3-judge panel during the 40-minute oral argument. The court is the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia; the judges are Douglas Ginsburg, Karen L. Henderson and Thomas Griffith.

According to *Nature's* quotations from the oral argument, two of the three judges seemed inclined to favor the government's position; the case will be decided by a majority of the panel.

Griffith, while questioning the government, summarized the case saying, "the only question for us is whether the later research is somehow inextricably intertwined with the derivation," referring to a central issue in the case: whether doing embryonic stem cell research on existing stem cell lines constitutes "research in which" an embryo is destroyed. If not, then the congressional appropriations rider that restricts embryo research, the Dickey-Wicker amendment, would not apply. There have been scores of pages filed in the case so far solely discussing the meaning and etymology of the word "research."

Ginsburg, seemed inclined to rule to the government's favor, replying to Sherley's lawyer, Thomas Hungar, saying Dickey-Wicker bars research "in which" a human embryo is damaged, not "for which." The latter would bar a much larger set of stem cell research.

A major issue for the judges in evaluating whether a preliminary injunction is warranted (but perhaps not for the lower court in its final decision) is the balance of harms between the two parties. Harm to Sherley and similar researchers by being forced to compete with embryonic stem cell research for scarce federal dollars, and harm to the scientific enterprise and hundreds of researchers and millions of dollars of research and unknowable medical developments by being forced to halt stem cell research that is currently ongoing.

Griffith postulated a situation where the court agreed with Sherley on the merits, and then asked how the court goes about balancing the harm. In reply, Hungar merely noted that Sherley and Deisher "suffer ongoing hardship."

In the meantime, there has been no further activity at the lower court level. While both sides have moved for summary judgement, meaning a request for the court to decide the case based on facts that are undisputed by both sides, there's good reason to think Judge Royce C. Lamberth will wait for the appeals court's ruling — and any possible written opinion — before making up his mind.

If Lamberth does rule against the government, they can appeal the entire case back to the appeals court. That would be the third time this case has been to that appeals court. The first time, over the summer, that court ruled that Sherley and Deisher did indeed have standing to sue the government, because they were indeed harmed by having to compete for funding. The second time is the present case, over whether the lower court was right to issue the preliminary injunction barring the research.

Police log

The following incidents were reported to the Campus Police between May 7 and June 19. The dates below reflect the dates the incidents occurred. This information is compiled from the Campus Police's crime log. The report does not include alarms, general service calls, or incidents not reported to the dispatcher.

May 7, Bldg. E19, 1:00 a.m., larceny of 5 laptop computers

May 12, Bldg. 35, 5:00 p.m., larceny of video camera

May 20, Bldg. NW61, 9:00 a.m., report regarding telephone harassment

May 26, Bldg. 26, 9:00 a.m., someone falsified a document

May 28, Bldg. 3, 2:00 p.m., two laptops stolen from office area

May 31, Bldg. E51, 2:45 p.m., officer speaks to party regarding stolen LCD projectors

May 31, Bldg. W35, 11:00 a.m., motorcycle stolen

Jun. 1, Bldg. 26, 10:30 a.m., camera stolen from office area

Jun. 1, Bldg. 46, 2:00 p.m., bike locked with a cable lock stolen from bike rack

Jun. 3, Bldg. 26, 12:10 a.m., Mustafa Zagui of 240 Albany St. arrested for trespass after notice

Jun. 4, Bldg. 32 (Stata Center), 8:00 a.m., bike was reported stolen

Jun. 4, 20 Albany Street, 9:00 a.m., hit and run property damage

Jun. 6, Bldg. W20, 9:00 a.m., larceny of wallet

Jun. 6, Bldg. NW86, 10:50 p.m., vehicle was keyed while parked in the lot

Jun. 7, Bldg. 26, 12:30 a.m., threatening note left on chalk board

Jun. 8, Bldg. 68, 12:30 p.m., man reported laptop stolen from open office

Jun. 8, Bldg. 1, 5:00 p.m., larceny of laptop

Jun. 9, Bldg. W20, 6:35 a.m., homeless on third floor. Trespass warning issued.

Jun. 9, 125 Vassar St., 8:45 a.m., motor vehicle broken into and gps was stolen

Jun. 9, 304 Vassar St., 4:00 p.m., man reports ipad stolen from his office

Jun. 10, Bldg. W20, 6:19 a.m., male/female sleeping in second floor lounge. Trespass warnings issued.

Jun. 10, Bldg. W61, 8:00 a.m., larceny of a bike from W20

Jun. 10, Bldg. 31, 11:30 a.m., bike was stolen from bike rack

Jun. 10, Bldg. W89, 3:08 p.m., larceny of bike

Jun. 10, Bldg. W61, 11:59 p.m., construction material sto-

Jun. 12, Bldg. 51, 10:30 a.m., larceny of a wallet and iphone

Jun. 12, Bldg. E51, 4:00 p.m., vandalism to a motor vehicle in parking area

Jun. 14, Bldg. 8, 2:00 p.m., laptop computer was stolen

Jun. 15, Bldg NW17, 2:03 p.m., threats by person known to him

Jun. 16, Bldg. W20, 12 p.m., two way radio stolen

Jun. 16, 125 Vassar St., 11:53 p.m., two individuals issued trespass warnings

Jun. 17, Bldg. W20, 6:42 a.m., trespass warning issued on third floor

Jun. 17, Bldg. W20, 6:49 a.m., trespass warning issued on third floor

Jun. 17, Bldg W20, 6:57 a.m., trespass warning issued on third floor

Jun. 17, Bldg. E19, 9:00 a.m., disturbance raised by caller

Jun. 18, 125 Vassar St., 12:55 a.m., Chu Yuan, 32 Cassidy Rd., arrested for trespassing

Jun. 18, Bldg. W79, 9:00 a.m., Vehicle was broken into. Nothing taken.

Jun. 18, Bldg. W35, 7:03 p.m., unwanted person issued trespass warning

Jun. 19, Briggs Field, 4:30 p.m., backpack with clothing, wallet, and cell phone stolen



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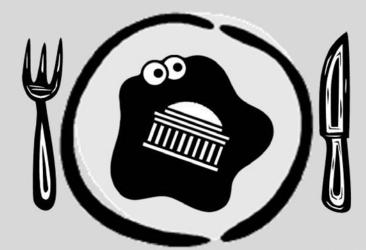
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- Why you are nominating this teacher

Please consider and comment on

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- Approachability
- Responsiveness to students' progress
- Impact

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Reasons for Fife's changed opinion alter between trials

Tang, from Page 1

Styke '11 in the early morning hours of Oct. 23, 2007 in Styke's Next House dormitory room. Tang was a Wellesley College junior at the time.

For reasons that may be under dispute, Fife changed her opinion on June 29, 2010, on the eve of what was scheduled to be the last day of the trial. Fife issued a written report on June 30 saying that Tang could indeed conform her behavior to the requirements of the law.

Fife explained that she changed her opinion because she received notes from Dr. Lisa Desai, an independent therapist who Tang had been referred to in early October 2007, the same month of the stabbing. Over the summer, the prosecution alleged that Desai's notes had been withheld from them by the defense, but the defense maintained they had been provided to the prosecution all along and the prosecution must have mislaid them.

In any case, the notes were again provided and Fife received them on lune 29.

Under cross-examination from defense attorney Robert A. George yesterday, Fife discussed many other events that had happened between issuing her original opinion on May 3, 2010 and her revision on June 29.

Fife maintained that only Desai's notes caused her to change her opinion. She said discrepancies between information reported by Tang in Desai's notes and information reported by Tang directly to Fife caused Fife to question Tang's credibility.

On Thursday, Fife had testified that the change was because Tang omitted the fact that she met with Desai 18 hours prior to the stabbing.

But yesterday, Fife said that it was instead the content of Desai's notes, for example that Tang did not mention thoughts of suicide or thoughts of wanting to hurt Wolfe Styke throughout the month of October 2007. But she had told those things to Fife in March of 2010.

But between Fife's report in May and the her revised report in June:
• Fife reviewed the Wellesley College clinical record, a stack of about 400 pages of detailed notes on Tang's repeated visits to Wellesley's Stone Center for Counseling Service, covering Tang's mental health issues from her arrival at Wellesley in Sep. 2005. Among other things, those notes included reference to

Tang's Oct. 22 visit with Desai, as well as others. (Fife should have had access to this clinical record prior to May 3, but she did not review it or consider it in her May 3 report, and it is not clear why.)

- Fife communicated to Assistant District Attorney Susanne M. Kontz, the prosecutor in the case, that perhaps she should consider getting a second opinion on Tang.
- Fife did not speak to Tang herself, for example to clarify discrepancies. Nor did Fife speak to Tang's psychologist Dr. Eric L. Brown, her current treating therapist Dr. Liza Brooks, or her former therapist Dr. Lisa Desai.
- Fife did speak to Tang's psychopharmacologist, Dr. Michael J. Mufson, but only about allegations that Mufson or George had called Fife "unethical"—the conversation did not discuss Tang herself, and

Mufson denied the allegations, Fife said.

- Fife telephoned Wolfe Styke's mother, Gwen Styke, around June 22, at Kontz's request.
- Fife exchanged e-mail with Gwen Styke, where Styke explained her beliefs about Tang's motivations.

Substantial courtroom time was spent on these details, and whether they represented an ethical problem. The net result was to call Fife's credibility into question, not sufficiently to invalidate Fife's testimony, necessarily, but enough to weaken it.

The defense noted that the wording of Styke's e-mail and Fife's amended report were "similar." Fife agreed with that statement.

Gwen Styke's e-mail said, "I think that it is clear it was hostility, rage, a desire to have control over him and his fate, and hurt from rejection that was the driving force for her attack against him."

Fife's amended report said Tang's behavior was "driven by her inadequate personality structure, her attachment issue, leaving her unable to manage rejection, and dealing with it by harming the person who rejected her"

There is additional confusion about documentation in support of Fife's initial May 3 report. For instance, that report reads, "Miss Tang had documented mood swings..."

When asked, she was unable to explain what documents she was referring to in her report. Her report had an appendix listing all the documents used in the production of the report, but Fife denied using them to produce that wording, saying she

thought the information came from a self-report from Tang.

Defense attorney George asked, "Are you saying you were relying on no documents although you wrote 'documented'?"

Fife replied, "I'm saying that I can't be sure."

George pointed out that the mood swings were clearly documented in the Wellesley College clinical record, but Fife maintained that she had not seen that record until after May 3rd.

Cross-examination of Fife will continue this morning.

Today is expected to be the last day of the trial, but the judge could take weeks to rule, if he feels it necessary. A police detective will testify about finding Tang on the night of the incident.

The trial takes place at Middlesex Superior Court in Woburn, Mass.

<u>The Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding System (Sloanbid)</u> Bidding Dates for Spring, 2011 Courses

https://sloanbid.mit.edu

First time logging in? Use your MIT ID as both your log in and password. Follow instructions on the site to change your password or retrieve lost passwords. Once logged in, make sure and check that your information (i.e. program of study and graduation date) is correct.

Institute-wide bidding for Sloan (Course 15) subjects*:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, December 22

Closes 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, December 29

Waitlist Round for closed Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

Opens 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, January 5

Closes 5:00 p.m., Wednesday, January 12

Section Swap Round for changing sections of pre-enrolled Sloan (Course 15) subjects:

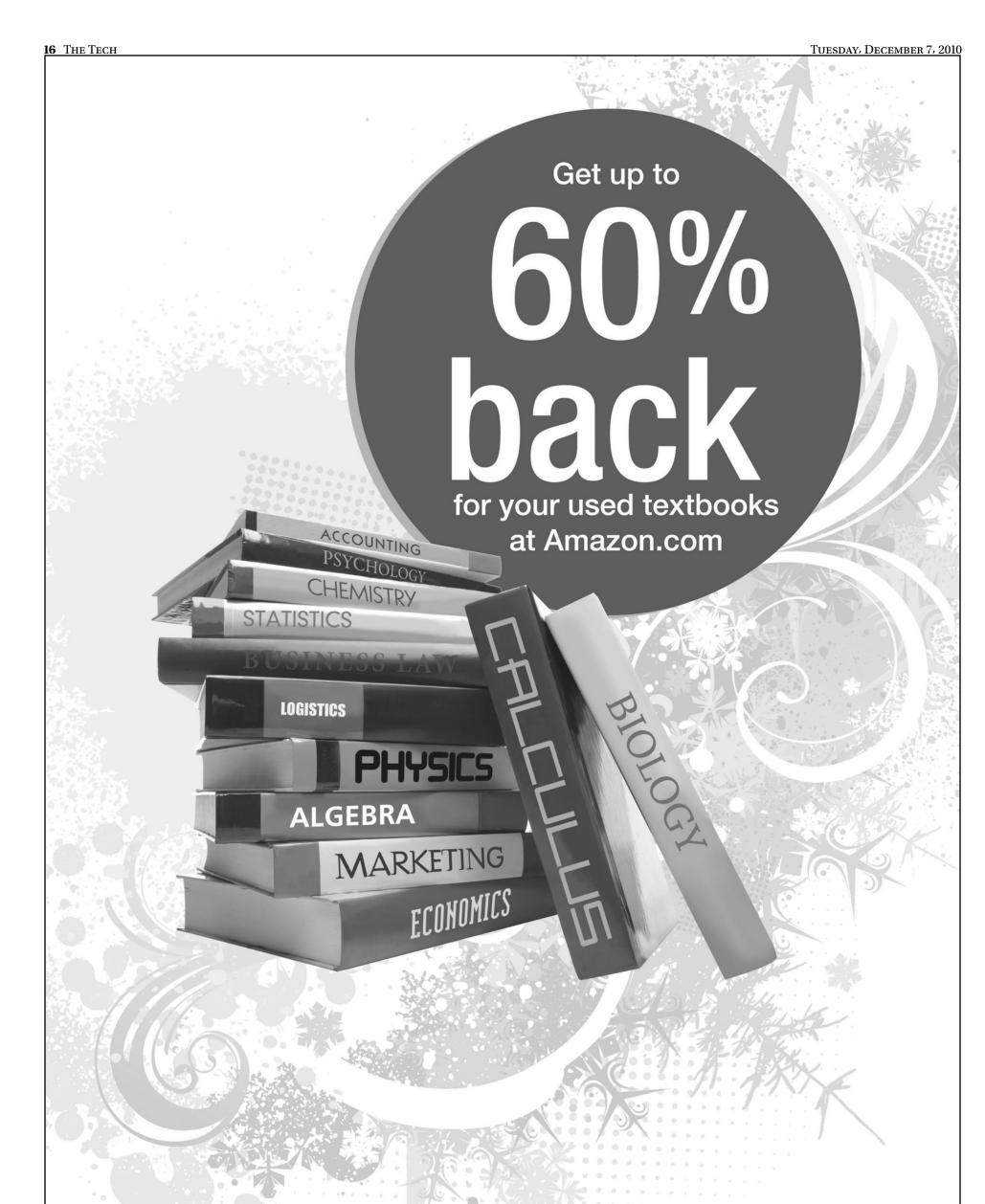
Opens 9:00 a.m., Friday, January 14

Closes 5:00 p.m., Friday, January 21

Please contact Scott Alessandro, salessan@mit.edu, if you have questions regarding Sloan (Course 15) Course Bidding.

Successful bids will appear on your Registration Form on January 31st and will be posted on the bidding website as of January 5th -- write down your password to check results!

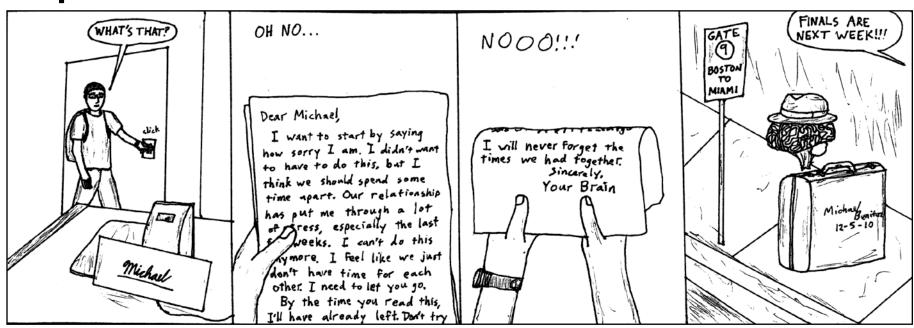
*For 15.026J, 15.031J, 15.053, 15.279, 15.301, 15.501, 15.516, and 15.812, you can sign up directly through WebSIS starting December 1st. It is not necessary to bid for these courses.

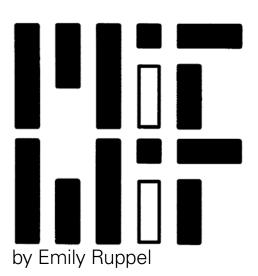


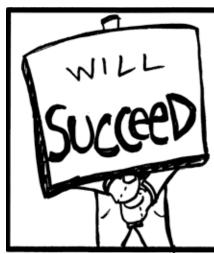
(You can sell back other stuff like video games and DVDs too.)

amazon.com/buyback

Help Desk by Michael Benitez











Somewhere on the Search for Meaning... by Letita Li



Easy Sudoku

Solution, page 12

			7			1	2	
		8	3					
1	2	5	6		4			
	7		8		5			
	8	9		2		3	6	
			9		3		1	
			5		1	2	3	8
					6	4		
	3	2			9			

Hard Sudoku

Solution, page 12

		9		5			6	
		8	9		3	4		
1	4			2		5 2		
		1		4		2		
4								9
		3		1		6		
		5		6			8	4
		4	5		8	3		
	8			3		1		

FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN FUN

Crossword Puzzle I

Solution, page 12

ACROSS

- 1 A little night music?
- 5 Smudge
- 10 Church area
- 14 "Rhyme Pays" rapper
- 15 State gambling game
- 16 Tap trouble
- 17 July 4 noisemaker
- 19 Rattan piece
- 20 Stories in installments
- 21 Dieter and Lou
- 23 Handyman's letters
- 24 Clue collector
- 26 Jazz vocalist Mercer
- 29 Beauty parlor do
- 32 Bradley or Sharif
- 33 Lassie's breed
- 34 Set of parts
- 35 "Peter _
- 36 Ziegfeld show
- 37 Cassowary cousin
- 38 Hagen of the stage
- 39 Military forces
- 40 Sesame, for one

- 41 Forest fauna
- 43 Perfect or past
- 44 Determine a tax
- 45 Writer Hentoff
- 46 Six-shooter
- 48 Pirate ship
- 52 Brainchild
- 53 Nonsense!
- 56 Checked garment 57 Add up
- 58 Branding rod
- 59 Der (Adenauer)
- 60 Tests
- 61 Come down to earth

DOWN

- 1 Muscle twinges
- 2 Massage target
- 3 British nobleman
- 4 "The Lord of the Rings" character
- 5 In a cunning manner
- 6 Unruly groups
- 7 Zone for DDE

- 8 24-hr. banker
- 9 Thefts
- 10 "Jo's Boys" author
- 11 Neat-o!
- 12 Went under
- 13 __ out (barely manages)
- 18 Horizontal barrier
- 22 Subterfuges
- 24 Witty guips
- 25 "__ of the Field" 26 Tidy any loose ends
- 27 Treasured violin
- 28 Bicyclist's perch
- 29 Doyle's sleuth
- 30 Margarita garnishes
- 31 Musical study
- 33 One of a pair
- 36 Butterball
- 40 Leave port
- 42 Heir's concern 43 Old sailors
- 45 Yuletide songs
- 46 12-point type 47 Pedestal topper
- 48 Chowder morsel 49 Ambiance

50 Clickable image

- 51 Rip apart
- 54 Chicken 55 Mom-and-pop grp.

Crossword Puzzle II

Solution, page 12

ACROSS

- 1 McAn of shoes
- 5 Cut down
- 10 Protest-singer Phil
- 14 Dynamic opening?
- 15 Red Sea gulf 16 Radar spot
- 17 Evidence weigher
- 19 Greek letter
- 20 Conductor Georg
- 21 American chameleon
- 23 Leaky PA reactor 24 Manhattan neighborhood
- 27 #1 hit by the Fleetwoods
- 30 Scruff
- 31 Ethereal
- 32 Final crack 36 Italian epic poet
- 39 Actress Lupino
- 40 Copper or Snake River 42 "Annabel Lee" poet
- 43 Singer Washington
- 46 Generic poodle name
- 45 Corsica's neighbor
- 47 Cologne trio

- 49 One equinox 51 Part of Cambridge
 - University
- 56 Cell letters
- 57 Edison's rival
- 58 Tropic locales
- 62 PIN takers
- 64 Family pariah 66 Two, to a Teuton
- 67 Mann of music
- 68 Stead
- 69 MLB manager Ned 70 Knot on a tree
- 71 Belgian river
- DOWN 1 Price indicators
- 2 Protagonist
- 3 Spoken
- 4 12 times a year 5 Uris novel, with "The"
- 7 Alerts
- 8 Amazon download

9 Hit by the Beach Boys

- 10 Osaka sash
- 11 Laundry clipper
- 12 Blackjack request
- 13 Iberian country
- 18 God of France 22 Les __-Unis
- 25 Queen of Sparta
- 26 Figures pro
- 27 Motel employee 28 White Rose __-Tea
- 29 Trade words?
- 33 United 34 Popeye's Olive
- 35 Rabble
- 37 Seat for several 38 Eye in Aix
- 40 Pirate's storage
- 41 Church area 44 Uru. neighbor
- 46 Anew
- 48 Cold pack 50 Breastplate of Zeus
- 51 Cartoon Kat 52 Down the middle

53 Singer K.T. __

- 54 Camel relative 55 Corset tightener

59 Luau souvenirs

60 Wide shoe size

54Sal of song

59 Part of DNA

57 Leslie Caron musical

- 61Stud poker? 63 Convene
- 65 Kenan's comedy partner

Crossword Puzzle III

Solution, page 12

- **ACROSS**
- 1 Lens 6 Commandment verb
- 11 Smidgen 14 Make cloth gathers
- 15 Bourgeois sculpture
- 16 Prez on a penny 17 Three lines
- 20 Wonderment 21 Like some cakes

31 Sound of rippling water

- 22 Avian haven
- 23 ___-a-porter (ready-to-wear) 25 Shows intestinal fortitude
- 27 For two, in music
- 29 N.T. book
- 32 Judging group 34 __ on (mollycoddles)
- 36 Single entity 39 Three lines
- 42 Be quiet!
- 43 Skinflint
- 44 Loudmouth lummox 45 Minnow cousin
- **DOWN**
- 1 Workplace safety grp.
- 4 Not std. 5 Minotaur's isle
- 8 Ex-G.I.

- 47 Pen name 49 Military meal
- 53 Martin or Kingsley 55 Vietnam neighbor

50 Follow

- 56 Twinings rival 58 Hoodwinked
- 61 Three lines 64 E. Lansing campus
- 65 Sign up: var
- 66 At full speed, at sea 67 Distressed exclamations
- 68 Likewise 69 G. Gordon _
- 2 That was close! 3 Three lines
- 6 Hook's underling 7 Three lines

- 9 Bared
- 10 Spike TV, once
- 11 Three lines 12 Discomfit
- 13 Penchants
- 18 Refer to 19 Snarl and growl
- 24 Offend the olfactories 26 Like damp basements 27 Real estate abbrs.

28 Speaker's platform

- 30 Some e-mail attachments
- 33 Madagascar primate
- 35 Actress Spelling 37 Ancient temple
- 38 Vanity cases?
- 40 Lhasa natives 41 Lapland native
- 46 Shell rival 48 Normandy town 50 San Antonio shrine
- 51 James novel, "__ Miller" 52 __ firma

60 Designer letters

62 Afternoon social

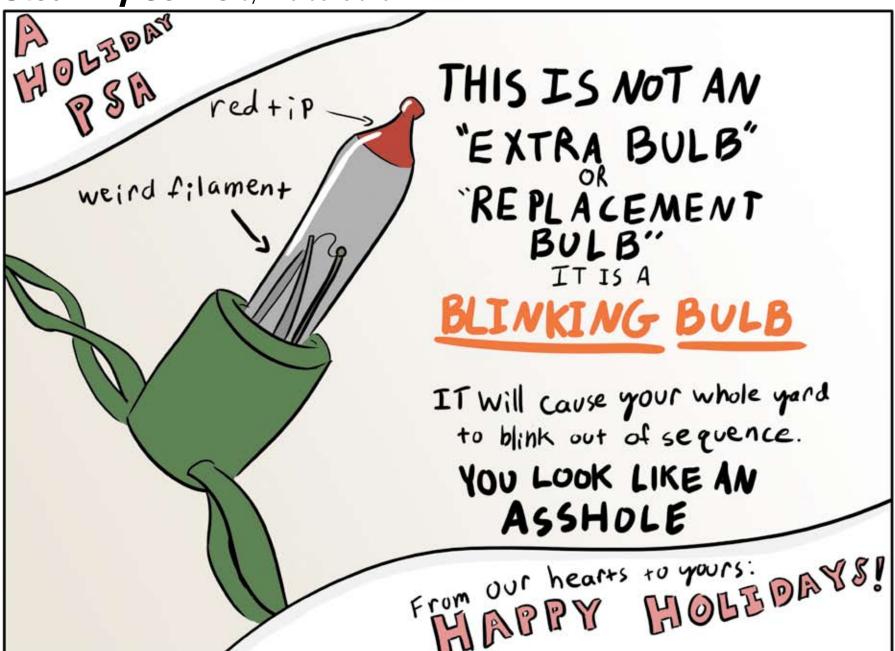
63 ID card letters, at times

A full page of crosswords!?!?

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Steal My Comic by Michael Ciuffo



STEALMYCOMIC-COM

A New Spin On An Old Favorite



by Jerry Holkins and Mike Krahulik







Crossword Puzzle IV

Solution, page 12

ACROSS

- 1 Trudge (on)
- 6 Ralph Kramden, for one
- 15 Purple bloomer
- 16 Bits and pieces of U.S. history
- 17 Buzzing
- 18 Rained a bit
- 19 Stone Age implement
- 21 Dowel
- 22 Spoon-bender Geller
- 23 One side of the Urals
- 24 Shirt tag abbr.
- 25 Chronicle
- 26 Team player
- 28 Account entry
- 29 Piquant
- 30 Donnybrook
- 31 Jumper cable connection 36 Dauphin's dad
- 37 Leafy garnish
- 38 Standard Oil by another name
- 39 New Rochelle college

- 41 Confounded
- 42 Shown, as in a museum
- 48 Unpopular rodents
- 49 "Grey's Anatomy" extras 50 Pacific weather pattern
- 51 Guess at LAX
- 52 Hurry along!
- 53 Kin of ligaments
- 54 Game often stalemated
- 57 Miser Marner
- 58 Puts up with
- 59 Deliver an impassioned speech
- 60 Jokes like Dangerfield's
- 61 Jazz vocalist Mercer

DOWN

- 1 Shop tools
- 2 Rebel
- 3 La corrida beast
- 4 Admiral or cabin boy
- 5 Actor's lines
- 6 Crushing blow
- 7 Diamond arbiter

- 8 Sinuous 9 Like a prune
- 10 Circus area
- 11 Eww!
- 12 Of great worth
- 13 Efforts
- 14 Branches out
- 20 Check out
- 24 Strands
- 25 Observer
- 27 Performer with strings attached
- 28 Run-__ of Hip Hop fame
- 31 Almond liqueur
- 32 Marginal marking
- 33 Impediment
- 34 Conks out 35 Old-time high note
- 40 Rod in a car
- 43 Horsedrawn carriage
- 44 Gandhi of India 45 Cloning spot, for short
- 46 Present at birth 47 Mortarboard fixture
- 51
 - 49 Puerto __ (San Juan resident)
 - 52 Mata of spydom
- 53 Mrs. Dick Tracy
- 55 __ Aviv-Jaffa, Israel 56 Poetic contraction

20 THE TECH TUESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2010

Swim and dive teams dominate at MIT Invitational

Engineers set five institute records and earn 14 NCAA cuts in final meet of semester



Elise A. Stave '13 competes a dive off the 3-meter board at Saturday's MIT Winter Invite Swimming and Diving meet. Stave placed 6th on 3-meter and 5th on 1-meter, helping MIT finish first against NYU, Tufts, Colby, Harvard, Wheaton, and Bowdoin.

By Sarah Weir

Both the MIT women's and men's teams handily won the MIT Winter Invite held this weekend

at the Zesiger center pool. The women's team edged out second-place New York University by 381 points, and the men's

team beat the also second-place NYU team by 646 points.

In swimming, points are awarded in decreasing amounts to the top 16 individual finishers and to the top 14 relays. Although the top places are ideal, a team can still garner a high score from consistently having more than one swimmer or relay team in the top 5-10.

After the first session on Friday night, the Engineers were ahead by over 100 points for both the men and women. The men's team went first and second in the 200 yard freestyle relay, and took first, second, third, and fourth places in the 500 yard freestyle with Carlo R. Biedenharn '14 winning with a time of 4:40.71, 11 seconds faster than his seed time entering the meet. The women's team took first and third place in the 200 yard individual medley and managed to edge out Harvard University's A team in the 400 yard medley relay to win first place. The team of Christine K. Rogers '14, Morganne C. Klein '14, Anna S. Kokensparger '13, and Elina L. Hu '13 beat out Harvard by one second with a time of 3:54.05, which makes the B cut for the NCAA championships. Elizabeth L. Stavely '11 led the MIT diving team with a third place finish in the 3-meter and a fourth place finish in the 1-meter competition.

On Saturday morning, the Engineers came out strongly, with both the men's and women's A and B teams in the top 4 of the 200 yard medley relay. The women's team of Rogers, Calley L. Murphy '14, Kokensparger, and Hu won in 1:47.85, less than one second ahead of Wheaton College's 1:48.28. The men went first and second in the relay, with the team of Brett L. Boval '12, Michael J. Liao '14, Wyatt L. Ubellacker '13, and William C. Dunn '14 handily winning in 1:33.01. Although an NYU swimmer won the 400 yard individual medley in 4:08.62, the Engineers earned a total of 75 points with Brendan T. Deveney '13, Jeffrey Lin '14, Remy A. Mock '14, Tim Stumbaugh '12, and Tim Wall '14 placing second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth, respectively. Ubellacker also won first place in the 100 yard butterfly and qualified for the NCAA Championships with a time of 49.14.

The Engineers dominated the rest of the meet, the men's team winning first place in every subsequent event. Overall, it was a successful weekend for MIT swimming and diving. The team will take a holiday break before resuming their season on January 6 at Wheaton College.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

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Tuesday, December 7

SPORTS

Men's basketball vs. UMass Boston

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SPORTS SHORTS

Men's basketball defeats loses to Springfield **Gordon College**

The MIT men's basketball team defeated Gordon College Saturday afternoon, 92-73 to improve their record to 6-1.



Gordon jumped out to a 9-3 lead just over three minutes into the game, but MIT responded with eight unanswered points to take the lead. Four of the Engineers' first five field goals came from three-point range; the last of these threes gave MIT a 14-13 lead, which they

would not relinquish the rest of the game. The lead increased to 16 points, 56-40, at the half, on Mitchell H. Kates '13's buzzer-beating 18-footer.

MIT would hang on in the second half and cruise to The Engineers shot 56 percent from three-point range, accounting for 42 of their 92 points. James D.

"Jamie" Karraker '12 hit seven of his nine three-point attempts for 21 points, while Kates led all players with 23 points. William Tashman '13 added 15 points and

MIT next hosts UMass-Boston Tuesday evening as they try to extend their winning streak to six games.

—David Zhu, Sports Editor

Women's basketball College

The women's basketball team fell 54-36 to Springfield College on Saturday, snapping their four-game winning streak. The defeat is the first

> NEWMAC loss for MIT, who are now 4-3 overall.

Both teams shot poorly from the field, with the Engineers making only 26% of their shots and Springfield making less than a third

of theirs. The game remained close for much of the first half - although MIT never had the lead, they were only down by one point, 13-12, with just over seven minutes left in the first half. Springfield pulled away, however, at the end of the period, extending their lead to 28-18 at the

Springfield added to their lead in the second half, going ahead by 23 midway through the period, and held on for a 54-36 win.

Sydney B. Beasley '14 led the Engineers with ten points off the bench.

MIT will seek to rebound from the loss when they visit Babson College Tuesday evening.

–David Zhu, Sports Editor

MIT ONLINE SUBJECT EVALUATIONS ARE NOW OPEN

Evaluate subjects and teachers through Monday, December 13 at 9am: web.mit.edu/subjectevaluation

View past evaluation results: web.mit.edu/subjectevaluation/results.html

ALL FEEDBACK IS READ AND VALUED... especially your written comments!